

I claim:

1. A restraining gasket [for use in a stuffing box assembly when connecting a first pipe portion to a second pipe portion], said restraining gasket comprising:

- a) a compressible body having a spigot-facing surface, a recess seat-facing surface, and a gland-facing surface; and
- b) a locking member, said member having an exposable tooth portion and an embedded body portion, wherein at least a portion of the exposed ^{able} tooth portion is positioned to engage the first pipe portion.

2. A restraining gasket as in Claim 1, wherein said locking member is adapted to pivot in response to a force tending to separate the first pipe portion from the second pipe portion, and wherein said locking member is adapted to resist movement between said first pipe portion and said compression gland in the event of such pressures.

3. A restraining gasket as in Claim 1, wherein upon compression of a gland against said gland-facing surface said locking member is urged into a secured relationship with the first pipe portion and wherein said locking member is adapted to non-compressibly resist movement of said first pipe portion relative to said gland by transferring a portion of such pressures to said gland and a second portion of such pressures to the second pipe portion.

4. A restraining gasket as in Claim 1, said locking member having a back portion disposed in proximity to said gland-facing surface and to said second pipe portion.

1 5. A restraining gasket as in claim 4, wherein said back portion is adapted to interpose between a lip of said gland and the second pipe portion.

6 6. A restraining gasket as in Claim 1, ^{wherein (transition)} said locking member having a facing elbow disposed in proximity to said gland-facing surface.

11 7. A restraining gasket as in Claim 1, wherein said locking members have a facing elbow, and an upper protrusion; said facing elbow being disposed in proximity to said gland-facing surface, and said upper protrusion being disposed in proximity to said recess seat ^{facing} surface.

16 8. A restraining gasket as in Claim 7, wherein said facing elbow and said upper protrusion are points on a curve.

21 9. A restraining gasket as in Claim 7, wherein said facing elbow is adapted to resistively contact said compression gland.

26 10. A restraining gasket as in Claim 9, wherein said upper protrusion is adapted to resistively contact said second assembled pipe portion.

31 11. A restraining gasket as in Claim 1, further comprising a plurality of density regions, wherein said regions are adapted to influence the movement of said locking members.

12. A restraining gasket as in Claim 1, wherein said compressible body comprises a ring mutably severed along its circumference.

13. A restraining gasket [for securing the ends of intersected assembled pipe portions,] said gasket comprising a compressible body [adapted to encircle a spigot end of a first pipe length and adapted to fit within a bell end of a second pipe length,] said gasket having a spigot-facing surface, a gland-

1 facing surface, and a recess seat surface; said compressible body having
embedded therein a locking member, said locking member having a
toothed edge, a gland-meeting area, and a seat-meeting area; said toothed
edge disposed in proximity to said spigot facing surface; said gland-
meeting area disposed in proximity to said gland-facing surface, and said
6 recess-meeting area disposed in proximity to said recess seat surface.

14. A restraining gasket as in Claim 12, wherein said gland-meeting area
comprises a tooth.

15. A restraining gasket as in Claim 13, wherein said recess-meeting area
comprises a tooth.

16. A method for preventing the disengagement of pipe lengths comprising:
a) inserting a spigot end of a first pipe length into a bell end of
a second pipe length;
b) placing a gasket within the bell end and around the spigot
end, said gasket comprising a compressible body and a
locking member;
c) affixing a compression gland to the bell end in a manner
that compresses the gasket to form a fluid seal;

wherein said locking member is positioned such that upon a force tending
to move the gland relative to the spigot end, said locking member directs a
portion of the force counter to the bell end.